



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
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May 20, 2014

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LABORATORY DIRECTOR ALIVASATOS  
ANR VICE PRESIDENT ALLEN-DIAZ  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL CHAIR JACOB  
EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLORS/PROVOSTS

**Re: University of California American Institution of Research Designation and Naturalization**

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce a new benefit supporting UC employees who have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence and are stationed abroad for the purpose of research. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has designated the University of California, its ten campuses and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, as an American Institution of Research. This designation allows employees who plan to seek U.S. citizenship (naturalization) to meet the USCIS “continuous residence” requirement even though they travel abroad for an extended period of time.

“Continuous residence” means that the naturalization applicant has maintained residence within the United States for five years before applying for naturalization, or three years in the case of qualified spouses of U.S. citizens. Extended absences outside of the U.S. may disrupt an applicant’s continuous residence unless the applicant can prove otherwise. Section 316 paragraphs (b), (c), and (f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act allows for certain exceptions to the continuous residence requirement for those applicants working abroad for:

1. The United States government, including the Military
2. Contractors for the United States government
3. A recognized American Institution of Research
4. A public international organization or an organization designated under the International Immunities Act

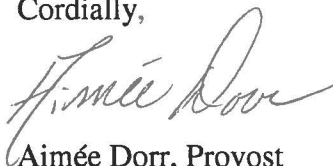
Permanent residents who seek to preserve continuous residence for naturalization purposes while employed abroad by a recognized American Institution of Research must file Form N-470, Application to Preserve Residence for Naturalization Purposes with USCIS. The University of California has received USCIS recognition as an American Institution of Research for the purpose of preserving the continuous status of its employees. Therefore, employees who are, or will be, naturalization applicants assigned abroad for an extended period of time may meet the continuous presence requirement as their time abroad will no longer be counted against them following filing and approval of Form N-470 application.

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The University of California does not provide assistance with U.S. citizenship or naturalization filings; the information here is general in nature and not intended to provide advice on the U.S. citizenship or naturalization process. Employees seeking U.S. citizenship are strongly advised to seek the assistance of outside immigration counsel. Questions about the designation may be directed to Janet Lockwood ([Janet.Lockwood@ucop.edu](mailto:Janet.Lockwood@ucop.edu)) or telephone (510) 987-9499.

Cordially,



Aimée Dorr, Provost  
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Enclosure: USCIS letter designating UC as an  
American Institution of Research

cc: President Napolitano  
Chief of Staff Grossman  
Vice President Beckwith  
Vice President Duckett  
Vice Provost Carlson  
Vice Chancellors of Research  
Vice Provosts of Academic Affairs/Academic Personnel  
Academic Personnel Directors  
Executive Director Fox  
Executive Director Rodrigues  
Executive Director Streit  
Executive Director Tanaka  
Executive Director Winnacker  
Directors, International Students and Scholars Offices  
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Human Resources Director Bello